



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 05711.0136

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Hideyuki MATSUSHIMA et al.)	Group Art Unit: 1775
)	
Application No.: 10/021,043)	Examiner: A. Bahta
)	
Filed: December 19, 2001)	
)	
For: CYLINDRICAL ORNAMENTAL BODY)	Confirmation No.: 9496
)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Office Action mailed January 26, 2005, please amend the
above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment sections of this paper.

Regarding an "attachment means", the Examiner previously relied upon the disclosure of Billingsley et al. for the teaching that "the reflective article may be secured mechanically or by use of an adhesive to a substrate such as a fabric or article of clothing." (citing col. 4, lines 3-6 and col. 7, line 30 – col. 8, line 3) Specifically, these cited portions of Billingsley et al. describe a binder layer 14 and the application of retroreflective appliqués to a substrate by heat lamination, mechanical sewing, and using an adhesive layer. However, Billingsley et al. fails to disclose, teach, or suggest a flat attaching portion having a first end and a second end, where the first end is integrally formed on part of an outer side face of the cylindrical main body along a longitudinal direction of the cylindrical main body, and where the second end is formed to extend in a direction away from the cylindrical main body, as recited in amended claim 7. Thus, reliance upon Billingsley et al. does not cure the defect in DuBois in view of amended claim 7.

Accordingly, amended claim 7 is not obvious in view of the DuBois reference and, as a result, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 7. Based on the same reasons and at least by virtue of their dependence upon amended claim 7, Applicants further request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of dependent claims 8-10 and 12.

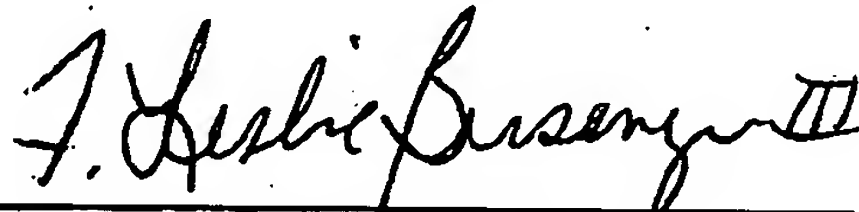
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 26, 2005

By: 
F. Leslie Bessenger III
Reg. No. 39,108